CLAIM SUMMARY DOCUMENT

Claims 1-33 (Canceled).

34. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for applying a label to an object such as a container or cup, the apparatus comprising

a printer,

a label applicator coupled to the printer,

a holder configured to engage the object and move the object relative to the printer and the label applicator, the label applicator configured to apply a label to a surface of the object when the object is disposed near the label applicator, and the printer configured to print an image on the same surface of the object when the object is disposed near the printer,

a control system coupling the printer and the label applicator to coordinate the printing of the object such that the label is in a predetermined position relative to the printed image,

wherein the control system includes a programmable limit switch coupled to the printer, the programmable limit switch being configured to provide output signals determining the position of the object relative to the printer, and

wherein the control system further includes an actuator coupled to the label applicator and coupled to the programmable limit switch, the actuator being configured to control the label applicator in response to the output signals from the programmable limit switch.

35. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for applying a label to an object such as a container or cup, the apparatus comprising

a printer,

a label applicator coupled to the printer,

a holder configured to engage the object and move the object relative to the printer and the label applicator, the label applicator configured to apply a label to a surface of the object when the object is disposed near the label applicator, and the printer configured to print an image on the same surface of the object when the object is disposed near the printer,

a control system coupling the printer and the label applicator to coordinate the printing of the object such that the label is in a predetermined position relative to the printed image,

wherein the control system includes a programmable limit switch coupled with the printer for providing a signal to the label applicator of the cycle status of the printer, and

wherein the label applicator further includes an actuator coupled to the programmable limit switch for actuating the label applicator in response to the signal from the programmable limit switch.

36. (Previously Presented) A machine for printing images on containers and applying labels to the containers, the machine configured to hold the containers, the machine comprising

a printer configured to apply an image to each container,

a label applicator coupled to the printer and configured to apply a label to each container at a prescribed location relative to the image while the image is being applied by the printer,

a control system configured to coordinate the application of the label with the application of the image,

wherein the control system comprises a programmable limit switch coupled to the printer, the programmable limit switch being configured to determine the cycle position of the printer relative to container, and

wherein the control system further comprises an actuator coupled to the label applicator, the actuator being configured to communicate with the programmable limit switch and coordinate the operation of the label applicator with the operation of the printer.

37. (Previously Presented) In a machine for printing images on containers, each container being presented by the machine to receive an image, the improvement comprising

a label applicator carried on the machine and configured to apply a label to each container as the container is processed by the machine,

a control system configured to coordinate the application of the label with the application of the image,

wherein the control system includes a programmable limit switch configured to determine and report a cycle position of the machine, and

wherein the control system further includes an actuator configured to communicate with the programmable limit switch and coordinate the application of the label with the receipt of the image by the container.

38. (Previously Presented) The combination of a container printer and a label applicator configured to apply a label at a prescribed area of each container,

each container having an axis about which it rotates,

the printer comprising a printing head and container feeder configured to present each container to the printing head with each container rotating about its own axis adjacent the printing head,

the label applicator being positioned and configured to apply a label to each container during its rotation,

the combination further comprising a control system for coordinating the presentation of each container to the printing head with the application of a label,

wherein the control system comprises a programmable limit switch configured to determine the cycle status of the container printer and coordinate the operation of the container printer based on the cycle status, and

wherein the control system further comprises an actuator configured to communicate with the programmable limit switch and direct the operation of the label applicator based on the communication with the programmable limit switch.

39. (New)) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the programmable limit switch is an encoder coupled to the printer, the encoder being configured to determine a cycle position of the machine.

40. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the programmable limit switch includes a resolver coupled to the printer, the resolver being configured to determine a cycle position of the machine.

41. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the programmable limit switch includes outputs for communicating the relative positions of the printing head and the container.

42. (New) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the programmable limit switch is an encoder coupled to the printer, the encoder being configured to determine a cycle position of the machine.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the programmable limit switch includes a resolver coupled to the printer, the resolver being configured to determine a cycle position of the machine.

44. (New) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the programmable limit switch includes outputs for communicating the relative positions of the printing head and the container.

45. (New) The machine of claim 36, wherein the programmable limit switch is an encoder coupled to the printer, the encoder being configured to determine a cycle position of the machine.

46. (New) The machine of claim 36, wherein the programmable limit switch includes a resolver coupled to the printer, the resolver being configured to determine a cycle position of the machine.

47. (New) The machine of claim 36, wherein the programmable limit switch includes outputs for communicating the relative positions of the printing head and the container.

48. (New) The improvement of claim 37, wherein the programmable limit switch is an encoder coupled to the printer, the encoder being configured to determine a cycle position of the machine.

49. (New) The improvement of claim 37, wherein the programmable limit switch includes a resolver coupled to the printer, the resolver being configured to determine a cycle position of the machine.

50. (New) The improvement of claim 37, wherein the programmable limit switch includes outputs for communicating the relative positions of the printing head and the container.

51. (New) The combination of claim 38, wherein the programmable limit switch is an encoder coupled to the printer, the encoder being configured to determine a cycle position of the machine.

52. (New) The combination of claim 38, wherein the programmable limit switch includes a resolver coupled to the printer, the resolver being configured to determine a cycle position of the machine.

53. (New) The combination of claim 38, wherein the programmable limit switch includes outputs for communicating the relative positions of the printing head and the container.